

Journal of
Proceedings
of the
Forty-third Annual Meeting
1917



Esto Perpetua

Dominion Grange
of Canada

Patrons of Husbandry

HONORARY MEMBERS

Bro. E. A. Partridge, Saskatchewan

Bro. D. W. McCuaig . . . Brandon

Bro. R. McKenzie . . . Winnipeg

Proceedings
of the
Forty-third Annual Meeting
of the
Dominion Grange
Patrons of Husbandry

held at
The Labor Temple
Toronto

December 21st, 1917

OFFICERS FOR 1918

Worthy Master—J. C. DIXON, Moorefield.
Worthy Overseer—HOWARD BERTRAM, Midhurst.
Secretary-Treasurer—NEIL E. BURTON, Port Stanley, R.R. 2.
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer—MISS HATTIE ROBINSON, St.
Thomas R.R. 1.
Chaplain—WILLIAM McCRAE—Guelph, R.R. 7.
Lecturer—ALFRED GIFFORD—Meaford.
Steward—WM. OKE, Whitby.
Assistant Steward—HENRY GLENDENNING, Manilla.
Stewardess—MISS ALICE PALMER, Port Stanley, R.R. 2.
Gatekeeper—W. J. GOODFELLOW, Allandale.
Ceres—MISS M. A. PHILP, Whitby.
Pomona—MISS LENA HILL, St. Thomas.
Flora—MISS M. THOMSON—Palmerston, R. R. 3.

AUDITOR

John Pritchard—Gorrie.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

W. E. WARDELL, St. Thomas, R.R. 1.
JUDSON AUSTIN, Simcoe.

REPRESENTATIVES

National Fair Association—W. McCRAE.
Western Fair Board—W. E. WARDELL.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

COL. J. Z. FRASER, Burford.
JOHN PRITCHARD, Gorrie.
WILLIAM PRANGLIN, Glanworth.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

JOHN STEWART, Gorrie.
MISS MURDOCK, Palmerston.
MISS McMASTER, Palmerston.
MRS. J. D. POUND, Aylmer.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

T. H. ADAMS, Essex.
W. J. GOODFELLOW, Allandale.
ROBERT RUTHVEN—Clarksburg.

RITUAL AND CONSTITUTION

W. OKE, Whitby.
W. E. LEESON, Aylmer R.R. 1.
ARNOLD McCALLUM, Glanworth.

COMMITTEE ON DORMANT GRANGES AND SALT CO.

J. C. DIXON, Moorefield.
HOWARD BERTRAM—Midhurst.

FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

First Session Afternoon

LABOR TEMPLE LODGE ROOM

Toronto, Dec. 21st, 1917.

The chair was taken by the Worthy Master Bro. J. C. Dixon, at half-past three. He invited Bro. W. E. Wardell and Bro. Henry Glendenning to assist him in conducting the meeting.

The following officers were present and took their places :

Worthy Master—Bro. J. C. Dixon, Moorefield.

Secretary-Treasurer—Bro. N. E. Burton, Port Stanley.

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer—Sister H. Robinson, St. Thomas.

Chaplain—Bro. W. McCrae, Guelph.

Lecturer—Bro. Henry Glendenning, Manilla.

Steward—Bro. Wm. Oke, Whitby.

Assistant Steward—Bro. John Pritchard, Gorrie.

Ceres—Sister Mrs. W. E. Wardell, St. Thomas.

Flora—Sister Miss M. A. Philp, Whitby.

Stewardess—Sister Miss Lena Hill, St. Thomas.

Executive Committee—Bro. W. E. Wardell, St. Thomas.

Auditor—Bro. Howard Bertram, Midhurst.

The absentees being :

Overseer—Bro. John McDonald, Beulpath.

Gatekeeper—Bro. W. E. Leeson, Aylmer.

Pomona—Sister Mary Thompson, Palmerston.

Their places being filled, Bro. W. E. Wardell opened the Grange meeting most impressively according to the Ritual of the order, Sister Wardell presiding at the piano.

The worthy master then took the chair and a synopsis of the minutes of the last meeting was read by the Assistant Secretary, Sister Robinson which, on motion, were adopted.

The worthy master, in his opening address, expressed his pleasure at once more being permitted to preside over this distinguished assembly, and the gratification he and all present felt in the presence of so many sisters of the order. He paid a high tribute to their work, to the ability, patience and perseverance for which they are noted and which counts for so much, especially in the social life of every Grange.

Speaking of the kindly spirit and brotherly feeling existing among all the members of the order which added so much to the accomplishment of the ends in view, hoped it might always continue. No new Granges had been formed during the year and none had surrendered their charters, whilst many Granges had added new members, making the numerical strength greater than before.

Speaking at some length to the work of the executive committee being called to Toronto on several occasions to consider an insurance scheme which for the present had not materialized.

Discussing the annual meeting of the Ontario People's Salt Co. held in June which he attended, expressed a hope that all Granges holding stock and individual stockholders would make an effort to be present at each of these meetings in future and take more interest in the election of its directors, thus keeping it a purely Farmers' Association for farmers and for their benefit, as in the past.

Thanking all the officers for their assistance in the past term which, owing to the United Farmers' Association having their annual meeting now it was thought wise in view of so many Granges

holding stock in the co-operative company to hold, the annual meeting at its close which makes two meetings in 1917, the last annual being in February. As the U. F. O. had decided on the third week in December as a settled date for its meeting, no doubt the Dominion Grange Executive would arrange the annual sessions at the same time, as being of advantage to both associations.

Bro. W. E. Wardell gave the Executive Committee report :

Stating it had met on several occasions to consider an insurance scheme to be under the auspices of the Dominion Grange, it had been decided to take no action at present although the proposition seemed to be an excellent one.

He endorsed all the worthy master had said regarding the operation and capabilities of the salt well at Kincardine. He had also attended the annual meeting held in Toronto in June to elect directors, etc., and mentioned the fact not generally known that to be eligible for a director of the company, one must hold five paid-up shares in his own right. No dividend had been paid this year owing to the installation of new machinery, which caused the well to be closed for a time.

He also spoke of his position as representative of the Grange on the Western Fair Board, thanking the Grange for the honor and described the duties and mentioned the courtesy extended to him as the representative.

Bro. William McCrae reported as the representative from the Dominion Grange to the National Exhibition Association, Toronto, thanked the Grange for the honor conferred on him and explained the duties devolving on him and the splendid work of the Association, which continued to improve notwithstanding the strenuous times caused by the war.

A general discussion then took place regarding the clauses in the masters and executive in committee reports regarding the Kincardine salt well, Bros. McCrae, Glendenning, Austin, Gifford, Pritchard, Stewart, Ruthven, Fraser, Goodfellow, Sister Robinson and others taking part.

The object and aim of the organizers of the company by members of the Dominion Grange in 1884, the benefits to the country in memorializing the government and the fixing by them of a standard weight for barrels of salt, namely 280 lbs., also the lowering of the price of salt to everyone through breaking the salt combine, was ably explained by Bro. Alfred Gifford of Meaford, one of the founders.

Bro. John Stewart of Gorrie explained the workings of the well and its benefits, past and present, hoping more interest would be taken in the affairs of the company.

Bro. Glendenning gave the history of the soda part of the plant, which cost a great deal but had not for various reasons been developed.

Bro. Pritchard referred to the dormant Granges who owned stock but could not receive their dividends unless reorganized, become again in good standing with the Dominion Grange, which would be a very easy matter. He suggested that the names of dormant Granges holding stock be secured with a view to their revival. Many Granges have enough accumulated dividends on the company books to materially assist them and make it worth while if attended to at once.

Bro. BerTEAM of Midhurst said there was about \$5,000 unpaid dividends belonging to dormant Granges and spoke very highly of the late John Tolmie, for so many years the capable manager of the People's Salt and Soda Company.

It was finally moved by Bro. Pritchard, seconded by Bro. McCrae that the Worthy Master Bro. J. C. Dixon and Bro. Howard Bertram be a standing committee for the year to look into the matter, to correspond with those concerned and where possible assist dormant Granges to reorganize for the benefit of the Subordinate Division and Dominion Grange. —Carried unanimously.

The Worthy Lecturer Bro. Glendenning called the attention of the Grange to the fact that all manufacturers' associations had paid lobbyists who acted as agents in Ottawa looking after their interests with the members of Ottawa parliament.

As soon as possible he thought the Grange and other farm organizations should unite in sending someone who would see that justice was done when agricultural questions came before parliament. These were often shelved for the want of someone to push the bill.

All agreed something should be done along this line, but was left in abeyance for the present.

Moved by Bro. W. E. Wardell, seconded by Bro. W. J. Goodfellow, that it would be in the best interests of the Granges to have the Dominion Grange affiliate as a body with the United Farmers' Association instead of leaving it optional with each subordinate Grange as at present; that all subordinate Granges forward all their dues, etc., to Secretary-Treasurer of the Dominion Grange.

That the adjusted affiliation for all Granges in good standing be paid by Dominion Grange Secretary to Secretary of the United Farmers' Association according to agreement.

That the new executive of the Dominion Grange be a committee to meet with the Directorate of the U. F. O. with power to arrange the terms of affiliation and the proper representation on the best possible terms.

After much discussion and many suggestions to the executive as to terms, etc., the motion was carried unanimously.

The discussion relative to the affiliation of the Dominion Grange as a body with the U. F. O. brought out the following points: That the Dominion Grange was responsible for the organization of the U. F. O.

That many Granges had not affiliated with the U. F. O. nor sent any dues to its secretary.

That some Granges that had affiliated had withdrawn from U. F. O.

That many Granges had taken stock in the co-operate company organized in connection with the U. F. O.

That if the Dominion Grange arrange the affiliation of all the Granges all dues would go through the office of the secretary instead of being divided by the subordinate Granges.

That the Dominion Grange would be responsible and pay the railway fares of delegates from Granges in good standing attending the joint and separate meetings of the Dominion Grange, the Farmers' Co-operative Co. and the United Farmers' Association when held successively.

That both Grange and U. F. O. would benefit by the new adjustment.

That each Grange would be entitled to one or more voting members of the U. F. O. as settled by the two executives.

That every Grange member would be welcome to attend the sessions of the U. F. O.

That the names of all secretaries and masters of subordinate Granges should be sent to secretary of Farmers' Co-operative Co. to be put upon the mailing list for price lists, circulars, etc.

Howard Bertram read and moved the adoption of the auditor's report, which was in two sections.

J. J. MORRISON, Sec.-Treas.

First Section

RECEIPTS—

Balance on hand, 1916	\$ 72.39
W. McCrae	1.00
Edgar Grange (new members)	1.50
Norfolk Grange	7.00
Henry Glendenning	1.00
Painswick Grange	6.00
Maitland Grange	6.00
Apple Grove Grange	21.42
Elgin County Div.	4.00
Donation for Lady Officers' Expenses	5.00
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	\$ 125.31

EXPENSES—

St. James Parish Hall (Feb.)	\$ 5.00
Delegates and Executive (Feb. 1917)	100.40
Tartan Grange Dues (Paid U.F.O.)	16.50
Express on cash book (to auditors)	1.05
Cash balance	2.36
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	\$125.31

Audited June, 1917 and found correct,

(Signed) T. H. ADAMS, Essex.

J. H. BERTRAM, Midhurst.

N. E. BURTON, Sec.-Treas.

Second Section

Cash from J. J. Morrison	\$ 2.36
Grange No. 166, Apple Grove, H. Palmer	20.82
Grange No. 599, Maitland, Miss Thompson	5.00
Grange No. 108, Union, William Oke	3.25
Grange No. 153, Edgar, H. Bertram	12.50
Grange No. 200, Burlington, H. J. Dynes	7.00
Grange No. 236, Ninth Line, S. Zurbigg	9.00
Grange No. 68, Howick, W. R. Hastie	17.50
Grange No. 147, Norfolk, J. Austin	23.50
Edgar Grange, Donation	3.00
J. C. Dixon	1.00
W. McCrae	1.00
H. Glendenning	1.00
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	\$ 106.40
Cash on hand	\$ 106.43

Audited and found correct Dec. 21, 1917.

H. BERTRAM.

Cash receipts received too late for audit:

Grange 146, Painswick, W. J. Goodfellow	6.00
Grange No. 166, Apple Grove, Miss Fletcher.....	16.74
No. 77, Forest Rose, W. Pranglin	7.00
No. 624, Dufferin, Warren Evans	7.40
Donation, Lady Officers' R.R. fares	5.20
Sale of Stationery	3.90
A. Gifford	1.00
From U. F. O. Loan (repaid)	100.00
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	\$ 146.50

Annual Meeting Expenses—

J. J. Morrison, Express	2.36
Postage from June (1917)	3.10
Stationery and Printing	8.50
Rent, Labor Temple	3.00
Executive Committee meetings	17.20
Delegates' railway fares	47.90
Executive owing from Feb., 1917	24.80
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	\$ 106.86

Total Receipts	\$ 378.24
Total Disbursements	229.81
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Cash on hand	\$ 148.43

N. E. BURTON, Secretary-Treasurer.
HATTIE ROBINSON, Asst. Sec.-Treasurer.

Moved by Bro. W. E. Wardell, seconded by Bro. Judson Austin that the auditor's reports and secretary's report be adopted.
—Carried

The Worthy Master and Bro. Wardell spoke to the item of \$100 appearing in the secretary's report from the United Farmers' Association as being money returned by the present directors to the Dominion Grange as cash that had been loaned in 1913 when that Association was being formed. The report was received with much satisfaction.

Moved by Sister Robinson, seconded by Bro. Glendenning that in future the proceedings of this and the following sessions be published for distribution.
—Carried.

The nominating committee laid the following report on the table, which was adopted on motion that the Master cast one ballot for the election of the officers.

Master—J. C. DIXON, Moorefield.
Overseer—HOWARD BERTRAM, Midhurst.
Secretary-Treasurer—N. E. BURTON, Port Stanley, R.R. 2.
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer—MISS HATTIE ROBINSON, St. Thomas, R.R. 1.
Chaplain—W. McCRAE, Guelph.
Lecturer—ALFRED GIFFORD, Meaford.
Steward—WILLIAM OKE, Whitby.
Assistant Steward—HENRY GLENDENNING, Manilla.
Gatekeeper—W. J. GOODFELLOW, Allandale.
Ceres—MISS M. A. PHILP, Whitby.
Pomona—MISS LENA HILL, St. Thomas.
Flora—MISS MARY THOMPSON, Palmerston.

Stewardess—MISS ALICE PALMER, Port Stanley.

Auditor—JOHN PRITCHARD, Gorrie.

Executive Committee—W. E. WARDELL, St. Thomas, R.R. 1.
JUDSON AUSTIN, Simcoe, R.R. 5.

Representative N. E. A.—W. McCRAE.

Representative W. F. B.—W. WARDELL.

An adjournment then took place, after singing "God Save the King", with Sister Mrs. W. E. Wardell at the piano, to the Queen May tea rooms, No. 14 ½ Yonge street, the members going in a body.

EVENING SESSION

Dec. 21st, 6 p.m.

QUEEN MARY TEA-ROOMS

The adjourned session of the forty-third meeting of the Dominion Grange assembled at the banquet where a bountiful repast was partaken of by the members and friends to which the members of the press were invited.

The Worthy Master J. C. Dixon occupied the place of honor supported by the Worthy Chaplain Bro. McCrae.

After full justice had been done to the good things and old friendships renewed or new ones begun over the tea-cups, the meeting was called to order and the toast list in the hands of the master was most ably and cheerfully responded to by those called upon. Each address being a masterpiece and worthy of a verbatim report did space permit.

Bro. Dixon spoke for the masters who had so ably filled his honorable position in the past and thanked the Grange for re-electing him with especial reference to the pleasant duties of presiding over social functions such as this, and expressed his gratitude at the interest taken by the ladies to whom this and many previous similar occasions were due.

Bro. Wm. McCrae responded for the chaplains in a forcible and helpful address after congratulating the Worthy Master on the success attending the forty-third annual meeting, he took for his text: "Danger of Resting on One's Oars". Every society must keep progressing, always on the move, always alert to every opportunity, never wearying in well doing, but making success bring success.

He also referred to the strenuous labor now imposed on the husbandman through the shortage of man-power and enjoined courage.

Later in the evening Bro. McCrae gave a humorous recitation, "The Irish Catechist".

Bro. Howard Bertram, Overseer-elect, was then called upon and in a few well chosen words accepted the office and spoke of the necessity of doing all in one's power to bring the young men into the Grange.

Bro. John Stewart of Gorrie, a charter member of Howick Grange, (Howick Grange having the honor of being the oldest subordinate Grange in 1917 in good standing.) His address was full of good points and suggestions, sketching the career of the Patrons of Industry, Farmers' Institutes and other organizations begun and ended during the lifetime of the Grange. He referred in glowing terms to a visit to Elgin County Division Grange held at Middle-Mach in the fall and spoke of the lasting benefit to a community having a live, active organization in its midst. He also mentioned a few of the many laws and amendments now on the statute books through the instrumentality of the Grange.

Bro. Alfred Gifford, the lecturer elected at the afternoon session, held that position at the first meeting of the Dominion Grange, was Master in 1883 and served on the executive committee for many years, gave with all his old time vigor a stirring account of his experiences in clubs and early Grange work, showing the necessity of an exclusive order like the Grange and why when the order was started by Bro. Kelly in the United States he and others decided that was what the Canadian farmers needed also and lost no time in uniting for the good of all agriculturists. Today the result of the work of the founders of the order and their successors could be found now in the legislation of the country.

Bro. Henry Glendenning, the retiring Lecturer, paid a tribute to the worth of Bro. Gifford, saying as far as he knew Bro. Gifford was the only living representative of the twenty-five delegates who met in London on that memorable June 2nd, 1874, the birthday of the Dominion Grange. Bro. Glendenning, in an able address, showed the many advantages of rural life with its telephones, mail delivery, consolidated schools, etc., and expressed his pleasure at seeing so many of the old time Grangers present.

Bro. T. H. Adams of Gesto Grange, Essex, No. 1027, replied for one of the later Granges in a particularly amusing style gave a description of school fairs, their use and abuses, the reasons for the high cost of living, the desirability of farmers co-operating and the effect on the future of the country.

John Pritchard was asked to reply for the lady officers, which he did in a most eloquent manner and showed most conclusively the forethought of the Grange over all other organizations in giving the ladies full membership with the complete franchise and eligibility to any office within its jurisdiction. Woman was now coming into her own and the Grange had had the honor of leading the way. He paid a high tribute to the work of the women in the home, in the Church, the Women's Institutes and in patriotic demands showing her power of rising to the requirements of the occasion.

Col. J. Z. Fraser, eulogized "The Boys Overseas," especially those from the Grange and the farms of Canada. He touched the hearts of all present with his sympathetic and vivid description of the going, the sacrifice and the much-desired home coming of our boys.

"God Save the King" closed the ceremonies, at a late hour, of the forty-third annual meeting of the Dominion Grange. As each one regretfully said good-bye, hoped the next annual session might bring all back and many more to enjoy the fraternal companionship to be met with only amongst "The Patrons".

The following committees were appointed by the Master:

RITUAL AND CONSTITUTION William Oke, Whitby; W. E. Leeson, Aylmer; Arnold McCallum, Glanworth.

EDUCATION—John Stewart, Gorrie; Miss Murdock, Palmerston; Mrs. J. D. Pound, Aylmer.

AGRICULTURE—T. H. Adams, Essex; W. J. Goodfellow, Allandale; Robert Ruthven, Clarksburg.

LEGISLATURE—Col. J. Z. Fraser, Burford; John Pritchard, Gorrie; William Pranglin, St. Thomas.

Amongst those present at the 43rd Annual sessions were:

From Apple Grove Grange—W. E. Wardell, Mrs. W. E. Wardell, Miss Alice Palmer.

Forest Rose Grange—Miss Lena Hill.
 Elgin County Grange—Miss Hattie Robinson.
 Maitland County Grange—Miss McMaster, Miss M. McMaster.
 Norfolk Grange—Judson Austin, Mathias Schilz.
 Howick Grange—John Stewart.
 Ninth Line Grange—W. W. Hallman, John Pritchard.
 Eldorado Grange—Robert Ruthven.
 Burford Grange—Col. J. Z. Fraser.
 Painswick Grange—W. J. Goodfellow.
 Edgar Grange—Howard Bertram, W. A. Osborn, C. Church.
 Union Grange—William Oke, Miss M. A. Philp.
 Gesto Grange—T. H. Adams.
 Guelph—W. McCrae.
 Manilla—Henry Glendenning.
 Moorefield—J. C. Dixon.
 Meaford—Alfred Gifford.

Partial list of Granges who affiliated with U. F. A. and sent dues direct to its Secretary for 1917:

No. 961, Braemar, J. J. McKay, Embro.
 No. 1015, Melancthon, James Brown, Melancthon.
 No. 1024, Yeovil, Earl W. Reid, Holstein.
 No. 1021, Ripley, W. J. McKay, Ripley.
 No. 1025, Eddy's Mills, John Dalton, Eddy's Mills.
 No. 1023, W. W. Rameye, Varney.

GREETINGS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM OFFICERS-ELECT FOR 1918

From the Worthy Master :—

Honored Brothers and Sisters,—I hope the Grange will take the place it had some years ago and look after some of our public affairs. If the farming community would get together just a little more than they do and discuss public matters that affect their well being, and have their decisions sent on to the different departments of the Legislature something might be done to help. The Grange is an organized body that can do this, being non-political. The Worthy Master of the National Grange, Bro. Oliver Wilson, Peoria Illinois, when sending the annual password, which will be forwarded to all Granges in good standing shortly, writes in part: "The next session of the National Grange is to be held in the State of New York. The city has not as yet been decided. I will be very much pleased to welcome you as a fraternal delegate, in fact any of your members.

"I believe we could work together for the mutual benefit of both countries. In these trying times the bonds of fraternity and fellowship should be strengthened".

The National Grange meets the second week in November. What an inspiration it would be to our next annual meeting if a number of us could accept his kind invitation. The executive, if it is thought advisable, could arrange an excursion to take place on the day when the ritualistic work is exemplified or any other of interest.

The National Grange, like ourselves, has had its ups and downs. At its fifty-first annual session last November, its membership numbered over 860,000, with an income of \$100,000. Will not each member do his or her share in making the Dominion Grange worthy of the parent institution?

Fraternally,

J. C. DIXON.

The Worthy Overseer writes :—

We must all work together and do our best to build up the old Granges. If there is any work I can help in organizing or helping in other meetings, shall be glad to do it. Any information regarding dormant Granges, especially those holding stock in the Ontario People's Salt and Soda Co. well, Kincardine, will be appreciated and may lead to mutual benefit.

HOWARD BERTRAM,
Midhurst.

From the Worthy Chaplain :—

Fellow Farmers,—There is a testing time for farmers now on. The war and the enormous destruction of food by the Germans and also the taking away of many from the farms by the volunteer system of taking all that would enlist and now by taking many more by conscription is leaving the land bare of the necessary trained help. So many from the towns think that farmers are not trained and that any one will do. Imagine a man not used to horses being given three well-fed horses, fresh and foolish, to drive. One of two things is likely to occur with horses: become foundered or run away and become injured; and so in many other things. Also, farmers can't pay their dollars per day and live, with the best of trained help, let alone the untrained. No other class is asked to work at a loss but farmers.

So my call is for patience. Do all we can to help in the stress and strain of this war.

W. McCRAE.

The Assistant Steward's Retrospect :—

SOME OF THE EARLY DAYS OF THE GRANGE

(By H. GLENDENNING, Manilla, Ont.)

When the Grange was first organized in Canada about forty-four years ago, trade conditions in the country were very different from what they are today. In the early seventies we still had with us in nearly every rural section, the old system of long credits handed down to us from the forties, fifties and sixties. It would be hard to tell who was most to blame for these conditions. The farmers, tradesmen and laborers, very largely, had got into a rut and it appeared difficult for them to make a change. We lived between 50 and 60 miles from Toronto, and the well-to-do farmers, as a rule, would take one or two loads of produce, consisting of dressed hogs, quarters of beef, poultry /butter and eggs into the city each year, which meant a three-days trip. The return load would consist of everything that would be required for the following year. On the return, wagon or sleigh would be loaded with barrels, boxes and parcels of all kinds tied on with ropes. It was a great event for the youngsters. They did not go to bed early that night. What about those people who did not buy in the city or other large towns? They were compelled to pay exorbitant prices at the village store. The merchants, as a rule, did not become rich, owing to their restricted sales and had debts by giving long credits. It will be seen that the most of the well-to-do farmers purchased their goods and spent their cash in the city. The credit was from January first to December thirty-first. Many people withheld their purchases of things that were badly needed until after the New Year. Merchants, tradesmen of all kinds did a rushing business after the New Year.

One of the objects of the Grange was to remedy this state of affairs. Merchants, as a rule, strongly objected to any interference with the conditions as they existed and every obstacle possible was thrown in the way of the new organization by them. They succeeded in many cases in getting tradesmen such as blacksmiths, shoemakers, etc., to oppose strongly the organization. The farmers went on and organized and when they purchased goods through the Grange and saw the difference between what they paid for the same class of goods through the Grange and what they formerly paid at the village store, it created great talk and brought a rush of new members to the Grange. This did not tend to create a good feeling between the merchants and farmers. The members of our local Grange as a body believed that these conditions should not exist. A committee was appointed to meet the merchants and tradesmen of the village and explain to them that we had no ill will toward them; that the trouble was in the system. We asked no special privileges for our members, but believed that the persons who paid cash for their goods should not be compelled to pay for the bad debts of others. Some of the merchants would not listen to us nor discuss the matter. One merchant asked for time to consider the matter. In the course of a few days he made the following proposition: "I will render accounts every six months, instead of yearly, and will give a discount of 5 per cent. on all cash purchases, whether to a member of the Grange or not." This offer was acceptable to us. By reducing his credits to six months it made an average credit on goods sold of three months. This was equal to a discount of 20 per cent. per annum. Goods were marked down considerable from the old price and about 75 per cent. of his sales were paid for in cash. Blacksmiths, wagonmakers and other tradesmen made a cash and a credit price. The result was that these men did a rushing business on the cash system greatly to the harmony and benefit of all parties. However, we soon had a considerable falling off in the membership of the Grange of those who joined only for a financial advantage. They argued that any person, whether a member of the Grange or not, paid the same price for their goods at the village store. Men of that class are of little use to any Society. I am pleased to state that we had a large number of members who looked at things from a higher level. They saw the educational advantage of the farmers meeting together and discussing matters of mutual interest to all. Wherever the educational and social features of the Grange has been made the principal plank, the Grange has flourished.

Worthy Stewardess :—

Brothers and Sisters,—As Stewardess of the Dominion Grange I would like to call your attention to the advantage of having junior members in your Granges. It helps the Grange and also helps the juvenile members themselves.

In the United States are organized Juvenile Granges conducted entirely by themselves with the exception of a matron appointed by the subordinate Grange. It would be quite in order for we in Canada to adopt such a plan, perhaps holding the meetings in the afternoon with as many of the adult members attending as possible for encouragement and support.

When the boys and girls join the Grange at an early age, they are gradually preparing themselves to take the places of the older members, for the junior members of today are the men and women of tomorrow.

The Grange to which I belong has had junior members for years. They do not only brighten things up, as it were, but assist in many ways, helping with the programs in social events, in the attendance of their parents and many other ways.

Would advise all Granges to secure junior members as soon as possible and I am sure there will be no cause for regret.

ALICE PALMER.

Worthy Gatekeeper :—

In past years the Grange has done a very good work in educating the agriculturists along business lines. The methods of the leaders of the Grange have been steady and firm, which method seems not to attract as one would think it should. Notwithstanding the extraordinary value of our charter and our splendid constitution, for some years the Grange has not gained many new members. Two organizations have sprung up and died since the organization of the Grange. Another has lately come into existence partly at the expense of the Grange, with a very great membership, and doing a great work, but were it not for the commercial organization at the back of it, would fail e're long. To succeed we must keep pulling together. Let party politics alone. Have some interesting paper or address for each meeting. Prepare to help one another and the Grange will still live.

Yours fraternally,

W. J. GOODFELLOW.

Ceres Sends Greetings to All Granges :—

When to the Granges we think of the members as engaged in the work of tilling the soil and sowing the seed. We hear at times people speak of the farmer as though he were a few steps below some other occupations. We as members of the Grange should feel proud to be a tiller of the soil for was it not the first occupation of man in the beginning of time? There is no other occupation that brings man into so close a co-operation with God the Father. Man cultivates the soil and sows the seed, but that would not avail if God did not send the rain and the sunshine to bring forth life in the seed till we have first the blade and then the ear, then the full corn in the ear. The farmer must be careful in selecting the seed, for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Let us endeavor to answer the call this year for a greater production of grain, a greater conservation of food that we may do our bit in helping to win the war. Woman was created to be a helpmate to man, so we find her on the farms taking her share of the work and responsibility. So in the Grange we find her better adapted to take charge of the social part of the meetings. As matrons in our order it is woman's duty to dispense lessons of wisdom and goodness, as well as the products of domestic industry.

We would ask that all Granges send some of their lady members to Dominion Grange next year in the month of December that we may all be inspired from the intercourse together and go back to our respective Granges and do better work than before.

Fraternally yours,

Ceres M. A. Philp.

The Worthy Patroness Pomona Says :—

As the Grange is the first order or organization of its kind to give equal rights to women with the men, the women should do all in their power to be worthy of the privilege. It is needless to say that a Grange where the women take the same interest as the men and all unite in making the meetings interesting is a most beneficial and elevating organization to have in a community.

The women can arrange most instructive programs on gardening and poultry-raising. The three lady officers, Pomona, Ceres and Flora, may give an evening that will be most interesting and unique by arranging a program on the subject which they represent. Pomona may arrange a most helpful program on fruit and fruit-raising. Ceres on grain and the now foremost and popular subject of the different grades of wheat for flour, and Flora's evening would be most interesting on flowers and shrubbery to make the country homes attractive.

In many communities a Red Cross Society is formed in connection with the Grange, making it an organization doing all in its power for the welfare of our country. So let us all appreciate and realize that we have an order or organization in our community that we should be proud of and all unite in making the Grange one of the strongest organizations of its kind.

LENA HILL

From Worthy Patroness Flora :—

Dear Brothers and Sisters,—Greetings to Patrons of the Grange. May we not, in this time of national stress and care, forget our high ideals. It seems fitting that we should look to the beauties of nature for inspiration and hope.

We should ask the women of our Grange to give all the assistance they can to our Granges which have labored so strongly for the national welfare.

Yours fraternally,

M. THOMSON.

Secretary's Office, Port Stanley, R.R. 2.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,—Co-operation of every member should be the watchword for 1918. Co-operation will make the Dominion Grange the most influential of all farm organizations, as it is in the United States and was in Canada some years ago. How can this be done? Keep your own Grange in good standing. Keep it before the public. Use the press. Let the people of the adjoining sections see the benefits arising from your Grange in the community. Talk Grange to your friends at a distance. Where an opportunity offers go and help organize or reorganize a neighboring Grange. Send an application to this office for a speaker and the best available man or woman will be sent to assist you.

Our Charter, obtained from the Dominion government in 1878 and amended 1881 covering all Canada, is unequalled today and no new company can obtain one with such wide powers. One provision being that the Dominion Grange has power to extend privileges of incorporation to its Division and Subordinate Granges. Thus any society or Association of Farmers by uniting with the Dominion Grange and receiving a charter from it can at once become a business corporation without further expense. The pioneers of our noble order, many now having "laid down their implements on earth," by united effort and persistent application were granted this and many other concessions. Their children and grandchildren should take advantage of the inheritance they won and not let their right slip away through indifference or lack of knowledge. Our executive and that of the United Farmers of Ontario are working out a plan by which the Dominion Grange will affiliate as a body with that association. All subordinate Granges working under the Dominion charter will send capitation tax, etc., to Dominion Grange. The railway fares will be paid of one delegate for each Grange of less than twenty adult members and one for every additional twenty or major portion thereof. (Two junior members equalling one adult member).

attending the Dominion Grange and United Farmers Association. By this arrangement the Granges at present in affiliation with the U. F. O. as units, and sending dues to its secretary will remit to Dominion Grange secretary and receive the advantages of both Grange and U. F.O.

My assistant Miss Hattie Robinson has kindly consented to take charge of the annual reports and dues from the subordinate Granges also Grange supplies. Any communications regarding either of these should be addressed to her and will receive prompt attention.

Several firms have written regarding seed grain. Any Grange having any quantity to spare will be able to dispose of it at a good figure by communicating with me at once.

In conclusion would like to call your attention to the constitution and by-laws governing all Granges. The one now in force has not been revised since 1909. As conditions have changed in many ways since then, each Grange should spend an evening at least in discussing it clause by clause and instruct the delegates to report at the next annual meeting as to your opinion regarding it.

Any information or assistance that can be given in any line of Grange activities will be cheerfully given by your secretary,

N. E. BURTON

Linslade Farm, St. Thomas, R.R. 1.

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Order,—The pleasant duty has devolved upon me of receiving your annual reports and cheques. My earnest hope is that there will be many more "good on the books", "reinstated" and "organized" before the third week of December, 1918, than in 1917.

Will be glad to receive any information regarding books, boxes, seals, regalia or charters belonging to dormant Granges that have never been returned to the Dominion Grange as they will be very useful in the work of today.

Every secretary should use Grange stationery, which we can supply at cost and every member should wear the emblem, a sheaf of wheat in the form of a button. Just now we as loyal Britishers should "Keep the old flag flying", also as loyal members of a long established order, keep its flag flying, whose declaration of principles starts thus: To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. To enhance the comforts and attraction of our homes. To strengthen our attachments to our pursuits. To foster mutual understanding and co-operation among our members, concluding thus: It shall be an abiding principles to relieve any of the oppressed and suffering by any means at our command.

We proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman as is indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our order.

Granges unfortunate enough to have no female members on their books should ponder on this last clause, act upon it, invite the women of your households to a meeting and initiate them into the mysteries of the order. You will never regret it. Should you feel unequal to the task, write and we will send a lady to your assistance.

Yours Fraternally and Faithfully,

HATTIE ROBINSON,
Assistant Secretary Dominion Grange.

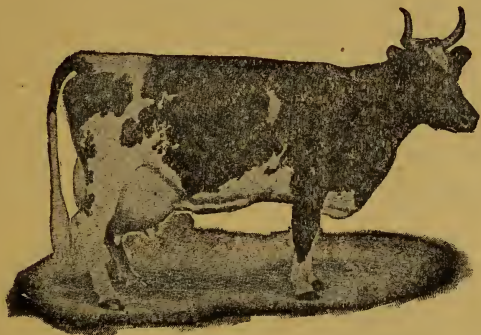
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HATTIE ROBINSON,
R R. 1, St. Thomas, Ont.